

village of Imboden, through all the mud and snow, to hear me tell the story of Jackson's foot cavalry. After that I felt more encouraged to hope that the occasion had not been altogether a failure.

At Appalachia I was hospitably entertained by my good friend, George A. Jordan, who is the efficient supervisor of the district schools. He is a worthy successor of Miss Rosa Tinder, whose splendid work in the same region, especially during the terrible influenza epidemic in 1918, is a matter of pride to all of our school family.

At another place I have indicated how my wanderings in the vicinity of Big Stone Gap and Appalachia were facilitated and enhanced by the good offices of Janet Bailey. She, her mother, and her good friends, in a most generous spirit, made the time pleasant and profitable. Professor H. L. Sulfridge, principal of the Big Stone Gap high school, and his efficient staff of helpers, made a day's visit with them most enjoyable.

Through the kindness of Professor Sulfridge I became acquainted with a manuscript copy of a book that is very rare and very readable. It is entitled "Life and Adventures of Wilburn Waters." It was written and published some years ago by Charles B. Coale, of Abingdon. It tells of Waters's life as a hermit hunter on White Top Mountain—of his Indian blood, his remarkable adventures, and of the pioneer days in which he lived. It is a valuable source of history for southwest Virginia.

At Big Stone Gap I was disappointed in not seeing Mr. George L. Taylor, a member of the Virginia Normal School Board. He and his family were quarantined on account of the influenza. But I did see again my good friend, Hon. Tate Irvine. Some twenty years ago he, as a member of the Board of Visitors to the University, was in measure responsible for bestowing the John Y. Mason Fellowship on a raw specimen from the mountains of western Virginia. I trust that he has not yet found reason to regret it. He is still a member of the Board of Visitors, I am happy to say. He it was who told me about the significance of the little monument at Moccasin Gap. He could not be expected to know about the little girl with the bag of popcorn.

February 13 was spent in the region of

Big Stone Gap, Appalachia, Dorchester, and Norton. It was also Friday. This reminds me of a string of curious coincidences. Here it is. On Friday, the 13th, I rode down a mountain, round many short curves, after nightfall, at a rate of twenty miles an hour, without an accident. The next day, Saint Valentine's Day, I went into a barber shop and was shaved by Martin Luther. On February 19 General Pershing and I were in Chattanooga—and visitors at Chickamauga Park. On Washington's birthday I discovered Columbus (Miss.). A few days later I crossed the Suwanee River, in the moonlight, with a real Indian in the seat just behind me and with a whole lot of darkies in the car just ahead of me.

These reminiscences may be continued if Professor Johnston continues to be hard up for copy.

JOHN W. WAYLAND

VII

IS THERE A MEDIEVALIST IN YOUR TOWN?

The medievalist in education thinks that "teachers can learn their art by experience and by observing others perform the trick. In the same way, I presume, he would think that the surgeon should learn to cut out one's appendix by experience and by looking at others do the job. Similarly, an engineer should learn to build a bridge by experience and by observing bridges being built. It would be a waste of time for either a surgeon or an engineer to study the principles underlying his art. To the medievalist there are no principles; there are simply preconceptions and prejudices and generalities. Of course, it would not do a teacher any good to study these latter things; and since there is nothing else so far as the medievalist can see concerning the art of teaching, then there is nothing for the teacher to study that will assist him to understand the minds of his pupils, to select material wisely, and to employ methods which will arouse the initiative and aggressive interest of the learner. If our nation should follow the medievalist's advice, we would be set back in education with Spain and Russia."—M. V. O'Shea, in *School and Society*.